

REMARKS

In the Office Action dated January 24, 2008, claims 2-5 and 7-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by JP04-167207 A (Inoue).

This rejection is respectfully traversed for the following reasons.

As the Examiner has noted, the Inoue reference discloses a magnetic head that has a core with windings, and a gap in the core with an even number of permanent magnets in this gap. It is clear from the drawing in the Inoue reference, however, that the head disclosed in that reference has permanent magnets with only magnetization components that are parallel to the recording medium. This appears to be essential to the intended operation of the read head disclosed in the Inoue reference, since it appears to be essential to the intended operation thereof to form a perpendicular field. Moreover, the Inoue reference states that the head is manufactured by the permanent magnet material being "filled in the gap." This is apparently done by sputtering layers of magnets in the gap with respectively opposite polarities, i.e., the gap is created first and the permanent magnets are then formed within the existing gap. This technique cannot be readily used to produce a relatively large number of magnets with magnetization components perpendicular to the surface.

The detailed substantiation of the aforementioned rejection made in the January 24, 2008 Office Action compares the disclosure of the Inoue reference only to the content of claim 2, and applicants acknowledge that claim 2 did not specify the direction of any components of the magnetizations of the permanent magnets. Each of independent claims 5 and 7, however, explicitly states that the two permanent magnets have respective magnetization components that are perpendicular to the

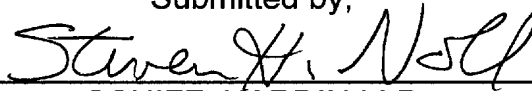
face of recording medium and the Examiner did not specifically apply the disclosure of the Inoue reference against that language in claims 5 or 7. For the foregoing reasons, applicants submit that the Inoue reference does not disclose that limitation in claims 5 and 7. Therefore, no change in the language of claims 5 and 7 is necessary, and the Inoue reference does not anticipate either of those claims, nor does the Inoue reference anticipate claim 8 that depends from claim 7.

Since claim 2 does not include the use of the stray magnetic field generator in that claim with a recording medium, it is not possible to include language in claim 2 referring to the permanent magnets having respective magnetizations with magnetization vectors comprising magnetization components that are perpendicular to the surface of the recording medium. Claim 2 has therefore been amended to first define the gap having a gap width that proceeds perpendicularly between two yoke surfaces, and then the respective magnetization vectors of the magnetizations of the permanent magnets are stated to comprise magnetization components that are perpendicular to this gap width. Since the Inoue et al. reference, as described above, clearly discloses only magnets with magnetization vectors having components parallel to the gap width, the Inoue reference does not anticipate amended claim 2, nor either of claims 3 and 4 depending therefrom.

As to claim 9, that claim already states that the two permanent magnets are disposed in opposite sides of the write pole, and this means that, if a gap is present, the two permanent magnets are located outside of such a gap. The Inoue reference discloses only a structure wherein the magnets are located within the gap, and therefore does not anticipate claim 9.

Claims 10, 11, 13-15, 17, 19 and 21 were allowed. Withdrawn claims 6, 12, 16, 18 and 20 have now been cancelled, without prejudice to the possibility of prosecuting those withdrawn claims in a divisional application. In view of the above arguments in support of the patentability of claims 2-5 and 7-9, all claims of the application are submitted to be in condition for allowance, and early reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Submitted by,



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